

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement in which the pending claims 59-62 and 80-114 were subject to restriction, applicants elect to prosecute Group II, claims 80-114. Accordingly, applicants have withdrawn claims 59-62, and reserve the right to file a continuation or divisional application claiming the subject matter of the cancelled or withdrawn claims which continuation or divisional application claims priority to the present application.

In the Official Action, restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 is required to one of the following groups of inventions:

I. Claims 59-62, drawn to a kit comprising dye/histological stain, RNA extraction reagent, RNA precipitation carrier, oligo (dT) primer, reverse transcriptase, DNA polymerase, RNA polymerase, RNase inactivating agent, terminal continuation oligonucleotide, dNTPS, NTPS, or a combination thereof, classified in class 536, subclass 24.33, for example.

II. Claims 80-114, drawn to methods of RNA amplification, classified in class 435, subclass 91.51, for example.

As set forth in detail in paragraph 2 of the Restriction Requirement, it is the Examiner's position that restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper because the inventions are distinct from each other. Although applicants do not believe that a search of the subject matter of inventions I and II would pose a serious burden on the Examiner, applicants elect group II, claims 80-114.

AUTHORIZATION

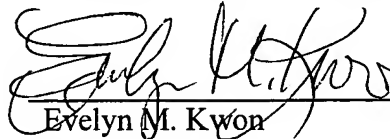
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1079-4015US3. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1079-4015US3. A

DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

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